

School Governance Council Meeting 3/24/15 6:00 – 7:00 PM: Meeting Notes

Agenda

Cool to be Kind Campaign update

- Hip Pickles- kick off event for the Cool to be Kind.
- Lip Dub- Completed by Dan Spada. The energy in the building increased as students participated in the lip dub. Students volunteered to be lead singers. All of the students volunteered

School Climate Committee

- Christina Ziegler came up with a door decorating contest to support Cool to be Kind.
- Ryan Parker and Dan Spada are coming up with an interactive “real talk” commercial that will be shown during the morning news. The students will have the opportunity to discuss how they would handle the situation with their teacher. Then the following day, Mr. Parker will come on the news to share how he handled the situation. This is to help facilitate conversations with students about bullying and being a bystander.

Community service campaign update

- A board has been started by the cafeteria in the main hallway.
- Students must complete 10 or more hours of community service to receive an award at the end of the year (on team).
- MACC Humanitarian award. Chosen by the teams - student who are not necessarily a part of the national junior society but has gone above and beyond giving back to the community. A min. of 10 hours. A display plaque will be provided as long with a gift card from their choosing. The federal union will also be providing a monetary donation to the student chosen (from each team).
- Cool to be Kind Pin? That can be provided to students to decorate their lanyards. An idea brought from the council that pins can be provided to staff to provide to students. The staff can make connections with the students by giving them a pin to match with characteristics such as bravery, community service etc. Beth Hayes will send the jpeg of the Cool to be Kind logo to Beth Stafford who will look into having pins created.

Face the Need

- In the Fall, line the walls of Illing with student artwork. MACC would sponsor the event for the community. The judges from MACC will judge the artwork and have the winners go on to the next round of the Face the Need (at Manchester Community College). MACC will help to provide a dinner that night for families attending the event. What does the face of need look like? How can students present the way it looks (artwork, creative expression, etc)?
- Students can be involved in all aspects of the event - creating the artwork, serving the meals, being a hostess, unified arts theater performance, creating flyers etc.
- Bus transportation or shuttle to help families attend the event?

Event overview: Science Fair and Nutrition Campaign

- Kathy Kapa helped two students get involved with the Science Fair that took place last weekend. It is a hope to continue and increase the amount of students for the next year.
- Ashley Okwuazi will be starting a financial literacy campaign at school along with Fred Brown from the Northeast Credit Union. Ashley was the first intern at the Northeast Credit Union. Students will be answering trivia questions throughout the week. Students who have the answers correct will be eligible to enter a raffle.
 - Reality Fair in May located in New London sponsored by the Credit Union. Students will play the game of “life”. They will learn about financial responsibilities, terms and they also will receive free items.
 - Ashley will look into an after school program to bring in a bank to speak with students.

- School Store? To help provide students with opportunities to learn about financial responsibility. There is a store at Bennett and has been very successful.
- Students in 7th grade just completed the Junior Achievement program. Business representatives came to speak with 7th graders in their classrooms for a full day event. The students learned how to create a business, auctioning off and buying a business and about investments. The day was a great success and students had fun completing it.

Building upgrades

- The walls and old lockers are going to be painted this summer!
- There will be 100 new lockers that will be placed upstairs for the 8th graders.
- Once the walls are decorated - possibly students helping to do positive artwork?

Climate survey

- We are aiming for at least 50% parent participation for the climate survey. The council shared that the school did an excellent job having the computers available for parents to complete the survey during the conference time.
- Students are completing the survey on teams this week and it will be completed by Friday. We are hoping for 100% completion.
- Teachers and staff will be completing the survey tomorrow during their PD.

Illing schedule

- Currently in the process of being reviewed.....
- Mr. Geary and Central Office have asked Illing to take a look at the scheduling.
- Some things that are being looked at are longer classes, advisory and academic support to replace the current "SSR" (sustained silent reading) time, 4 teachers per team with a 5th academic block that may include intervention to improve reading/math skills, enrichment or world language that leads to high school credit. We may have 8 teams instead of 9. It is the goal to have one Special Education teacher on each team and keep class sizes at about 20 students.
- Beth will provide more information on the finalized recommendations/decisions for the schedule at the next meeting.

Roundtable

- Beth Stafford shared that the Vietnam wall will be coming to Manchester in October. Incorporate into the curriculum. Beth has shared that students can visit the wall as well as doing essays or drawings to go along with the remembrance.